up some important programmes for implementation during the coming decade. One such programme, initiated during 2001-02, is the electrification of the estimated 18,000 villages in the remote and difficult areas of the country through renewable energy sources such as solar energy, biomass and small hydro power. A target for electrifying 5,000 such villages has been fixed for the Tenth Plan period.

The Government has advised the states to identify remote villages for electrification through non-conventional energy sources. Several states have submitted partial or complete lists of such villages to the Ministry. The number of remote villages identified so far in the States of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh for electrification through renewable energy resources are 1250 and 1226 respectively. The State of Maharashtra has submitted a list of 307 unelectrified villages.

(c) and (d) 120 remote villages in Chhattisgarh have so far been electrified under the programme of the Ministry. Projects for electrification of a further 200 villages in Chhattisgarh and 55 villages in Madhya Pradesh are under implementation. No project for electrification of remote villages through renewable energy sources has been sanctioned so far in Maharashtra. It is proposed to electrify 1,000 villages during 2003-04 in the country under this programme.

Withdrawal of subsidy on importing units

353. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is encouraging the establishment of wind farms, whereas Indian manufacturers of wind power generation units or machinery parts are competing against importers because of the subsidy they are getting on import of wind power units or machinery parts;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to withdraw the subsidy on importing units or machinery parts in wind power electric generating units;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor and how does Government plan to encourage the participation of Indian manufacturers in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) A wind power capacity of 1870 MW has so far been established in the country. There is no subsidy on import of wind electric generators or their parts. However, concessional custom duty is levied on import of a few specified components and parts. This concession is reviewed from time to time keeping in view the requirement of local wind industry.

(d) Wind electric generators are being manufactured through local production in the country and are not being imported from abroad as complete units.

Generation of power through renewable energy sources

354. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the power generated through renewable energy sources in the last five years; and

(b) the investment made and the benefits reaped by Government during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Over 25.8 billion units of power which include, 8475 million units from wind, 11635 million units from small hydro, 5581 million units from biomass and 178 million units from energy from wastes, was generated from renewable energy sources during the last five years, *i.e.,* 1998-99 to 2002-03.

(b) An estimated investment of over Rs. 8000 crore, has been made during the last five years to set up non-conventional energy based power projects in the country. Of this, the Ministry has provided a budgetary support of about Rs. 320 crore. This resulted in capacity addition of over 1600 MW from various non-conventional energy sources.